TO THE

KING.

SIR,

AS it is by the Honour of *Your Royal* Appointment and Command, that *This Book* is now brought into the Light; It is but Natural, to Beg and to Hope for a Protection from Your *Princely Goodneſs*, to the *Creature* of Your *Own Power*: This being but ſuitable to the Courſe and Example of the Divine Omnipotence and Providence it ſelf, to Preſerve by the One, the Productions of the Other. And now, *May it Pleaſe Your MAJESTY*, after the Tributary Oblation of Theſe *Papers*, to permit the moſt Dutiful *Author* and *Collector* of Them, with all Thankfulneſs and Veneration, to lay Himſelf at Your *Sacred* Feet. The *Subject* is *Great* and *Auguſt*; and, if I have not Worded the Illuſtrations of Things according to Art, I dare become anſwerable to the World yet, for the Exact Truth and Juſtice of the Deſcriptions and the Figures. The Pomp, the Dignity, and the many Glorious Circumſtances which Accompany this Matter and Occaſion, would endanger the Tempting of another Man of my Profeſſion to ſwell a *Dedication* into the Bulk of a *Hiſtory*: For a Man cannot do Right to the Solemnity that is here in Queſtion, without carrying his Thoughts back at the ſame time into the Boundleſs Antiquity of Your Imperial Deſcent through ſo many Ages: The Splendor of Your Kingly Progenitors both in War and Peace, and all theſe Tranſcendent Bleſſings and Advantages, made yet Greater by that Series of Miracles that have been ſtill wrought in Favour of *Your*

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